

History of the G.R.E.A.T. Program

In 1991, G.R.E.A.T. was developed through a combined effort of the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and the Phoenix Police Department.

The program began as an eight-lesson middle school curriculum. In early 1992, the first G.R.E.A.T. Officer Training was held, and in 1993, the program was expanded nationwide.

Since its inception in 1991, over 8,000 law enforcement officers have been certified as G.R.E.A.T. instructors, and more than four million students have graduated from the G.R.E.A.T. Program.

In 1998, the program added four additional law enforcement agencies to assist in administering the program: La Crosse Police Department, Wisconsin; Orange County Sheriff's Office, Florida; Philadelphia Police Department, Pennsylvania; and Portland Police Bureau, Oregon.

In 2004, Congress directed that overall program administration be transferred to the Office of Justice

Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). In October 2004, a grant was awarded by BJA to the Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR) (www.iir.com) to provide national training coordination services and related tasks.

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Regional Sites and Federal Partners

Regional Training Sites



Northeast

Philadelphia Police Department
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
(215) 686-1477



Southeast

Orange County Sheriff's Office
Orlando, Florida
(800) 363-5569



Midwest

La Crosse Police Department
La Crosse, Wisconsin
(877) 86-GREAT



Western

Portland Police Bureau
Portland, Oregon
(800) 823-7188



Southwest

Phoenix Police Department
Phoenix, Arizona
(800) 24-GREAT

Federal Partners



**U.S. Department
of Justice**
Bureau of Justice
Assistance



**U.S. Department
of Homeland
Security**
Federal Law
Enforcement
Training Center
(FLETC)



**U.S. Department
of Justice**
Bureau of Alcohol,
Tobacco, Firearms
and Explosives

NO Violence is G.R.E.A.T.



**Helping students
avoid violence and
destructive behaviors**



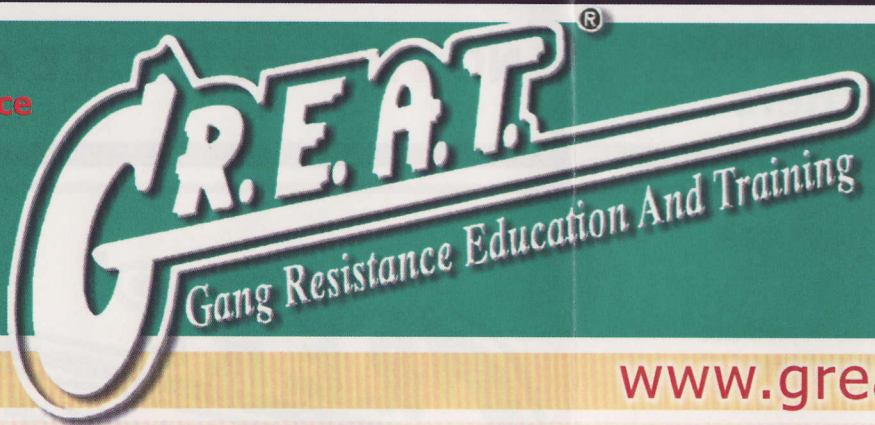
(800) 726-7070

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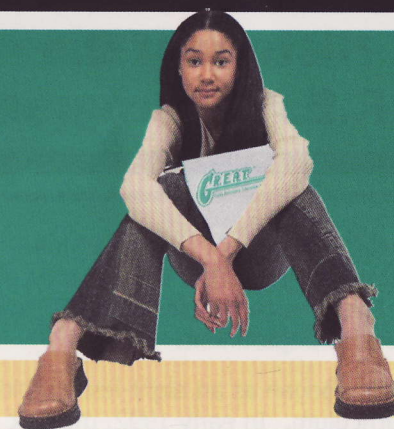


BJA Bureau of Justice Assistance

NO
Violence
is



www.great-online.org



What Is G.R.E.A.T.?

The G.R.E.A.T. Program is a school-based, law enforcement officer-instructed classroom curriculum. The program's primary objective is prevention and is intended as an immunization against delinquency, youth violence, and gang membership. The G.R.E.A.T. lessons focus on providing life skills to students to help them avoid delinquent behavior and violence to solve problems. G.R.E.A.T. offers a continuum of components for students and their families.

G.R.E.A.T. Program

- ♦ **Core/Middle School Curriculum.** Local law enforcement officers, certified through an approved training program, deliver the 13-lesson curriculum to students in their classrooms during the school year. G.R.E.A.T.'s violence prevention/life skills competency curriculum helps students avoid destructive behaviors.
- ♦ **Elementary School Curriculum.** Officers provide a six-lesson program to 4th and 5th grade students. The goal of the G.R.E.A.T. elementary curriculum is to prevent violence

while developing a positive bond between law enforcement and youth.

- ♦ **Summer Component.** The summer education and recreation program continues to build on the G.R.E.A.T. school-based program and reinforces the 13-lesson cognitive, social, and self-esteem-building lessons. Children enjoy recreational games, outings, and participation in community service projects.
- ♦ **Families Component.** The family component of G.R.E.A.T. is comprised of six family-child sessions that provide facilitator-guided, multilevel, relationship-building opportunities. The sessions are life skills-based and promote social bonding, enhance decision-making skills, and strengthen healthy behaviors within a family. Ultimately, G.R.E.A.T. Families seeks to strengthen communities by strengthening individual families.

National Evaluation

In 1995, a program evaluation was initiated and conducted by the National Institute of Justice in conjunction with the University of Nebraska at

Omaha. The five-year longitudinal study showed that students who participated in G.R.E.A.T. had:

- ♦ Lower rates of victimization.
- ♦ More negative views about gangs.
- ♦ More favorable attitudes toward law enforcement.
- ♦ Reduced risk-seeking behaviors.
- ♦ Increased association with peers involved in prosocial activities.

In 2000, the curriculum was revised to include additional lessons, emphasize active learning, and increase teacher involvement.

G.R.E.A.T. Web Site

The G.R.E.A.T. Web site provides information about the program and organization, including officer training and class schedules, the curriculum, how to establish a local G.R.E.A.T. Program, and grant application information. Visit the G.R.E.A.T. Web site at www.great-online.org, or call (800) 726-7070 for more information.

